

Latimer, Becky

From: Latimer, Becky
Sent: Tuesday, February 25, 2020 9:02 AM
To:
Subject: 2019-290-WS

Dear Laura Bradshaw,

Protest/Comments will be placed in the Protest File of the Docket listed below and on the Commission's Website at www.psc.sc.gov.

- Docket No. 2019-290-WS - Application of Blue Granite Water Company for Approval to Adjust Rate Schedules and Increase Rates

A Protestant is an individual objecting on the ground of private or public interest to the approval of an Application, Petition, Motion or other matters which the Commission may have under consideration. A Protestant may offer sworn testimony but cannot cross-examine witnesses offered by other parties.

According to the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, filing a Protest does not make you a Party of Record. A Protestant desiring to become an Intervenor (i.e., a Party of Record) in a proceeding before the Commission may file a Petition for Intervention within the time prescribed by the Commission.

You can follow this Docket and other daily filings made at the Commission by subscribing to the Commission's Email Subscriptions at this link: <https://dms.psc.sc.gov/Web/Email>; or you can follow the individual Docket at the link listed below:

Docket No. 2019-290-WS - Application of Blue Granite Water Company for Approval to Adjust Rate Schedules and Increase Rates <https://dms.psc.sc.gov/Web/Dockets/Detail/117247>

If we may be of further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,
Becky Latimer

Public Service Commission of South Carolina
101 Executive Center Dr., Suite 100
Columbia, SC 29210

Phone: 803-886-5100
Fax: 803-886-5199
www.psc.sc.gov

Save as PDF file and Email form
to: contact@psc.sc.gov

Letter of Protest

Docket No. 2019-290-WS

* Required Fields

Date: * 1/29/20

Protestant Information:

Name * Laura Bradshaw

Mailing Address

City, State Zip Clover SC

Phone

E-mail

1. What is your connection or interest in this case? * For example, are you a customer of the Company that is the subject of this pending proceeding? (This section must be completed. Attach additional information if necessary.)

Customer

2. Please give a concise statement of your protest. * (This section must be completed. Attach additional information if necessary.)

Blue Granite prices are exceptionally high! We pay a flat fee for no service. In the summer when we leave our property for 2 months, we continue to have a 65\$ monthly bill for zero water usage. We continually have interruptions in service that require a boil advisory. This is a for profit company who is taking advantage of being called a public utility. Blue Granite charges 3 times more than any other water company in the area! They have a monopoly in the area and residents are forced to pay exorbitant prices in order to have a basic need met.

3. Do you wish to make an appearance at a hearing in this proceeding, if scheduled, and offer sworn testimony? *

Yes, if needed

Signature Required: 

✓ ml *

Latimer, Becky

From: Latimer, Becky
Sent: Tuesday, February 25, 2020 9:01 AM
To: ~
Subject: 2019-290-WS

Dear Rev./ Dr. John and Judith Basie,

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Sincerely,
Becky Latimer



Save as PDF file and Email form
to: contact@psc.sc.gov

* Required Fields

Date: * 02/20/2020

Letter of Protest
Docket No. 2019-290-V

Protestant Information:

Name * Rev. Dr. John A. and Judith H. Basie

Mailing Address *

City, State Zip * Clover, SC

Phone *

E-mail

1. What is your connection or interest in this case? * For example, are you a customer of the Company that is the subject of this pending proceeding? (This section must be completed. Attach additional information if necessary.)

We are customers of Blue Granite Water. Their proposed increases of 56% sewer and ~35%-55% water are ludicrous. Proposed rate increases of this magnitude should not even be set forth.

* Their "non-consumption based" rate structure for sewage fees is a travesty in itself.

* We are being asked to trust BG concerning proposed "annual rate adjustment mechanisms", while as consumers having no voice in a hearing process.

* From Wes Climer, R-York: I have grave concerns about subjecting the utility's customers to any rate mechanism that relies upon the company acting in good faith." (Heraldonline July 18, 2019)

* "In total, Blue Granite is seeking \$11.7 million in added revenue to cover, among other things, its legal expenses." " Blue Granite has a history of skirting environmental regulations." The State.com

2. Please give a concise statement of your protest. * (This section must be completed. Attach additional information if necessary.)

"A recent filing by ORS found \$500,000 in moving expenses incurred by Blue Granite, when it relocated from West Columbia to Greenville in 2018." " Tens of thousands of dollars in rebranding expenses" "Expenses deemed non-allowable by regulators, including Chamber of Commerce dues, flower arrangements, donations, scholarships, a 65 inch TV and a 1.15 carat diamond ring." WIS News, January 28, 2020

After reading and hearing all of this, we the rate-payers are still asked not only to shoulder huge rate increases, but to trust Blue Granite with ethical annual rate adjustments, about which we will have no voice.

We call on you, the PSC, to advocate on our behalf, to be transparent, impartial and to hold these utilities in check for the well-being of rate-payers you are charged with serving. We deserve protection from ludicrous rate increases, whether they include SCANA, the National Association of Water Companies or Blue Granite. This rate increase petition is clearly a money-grab and a bailout of Blue Granite. Their greed and ineptitude should not become our problem.

3. Do you wish to make an appearance at a hearing in this proceeding , if scheduled, and offer sworn testimony? *

We are seniors and unable to attend.

RECEIVED

FEB 24 2020

PSC SC
CLERK'S OFFICE

Signature Required: Judith H. Basie